

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is filed concurrently with a CPA. Applicants respectfully request examination of all pending claims. Such examination at Examiner's earliest convenience is respectfully solicited.

VERSION SHOWING MARKED CHANGES TO THE APPLICATION

1 1. (Amended) An apparatus adapted to facilitate communications between a client
2 device and a remote device, comprising:
3 a network interface[, through which the apparatus facilitates communication between a
4 client device and a remote device at any of a number of alternative service levels] including (i)
5 filters to control access to different service levels and (ii) a classifier, communicatively coupled
6 to the filters, to classify and mark one of the service levels associated with a received data packet
7 in response to satisfying filter criteria associated with at least one filter; and
8 a controller[,] coupled to the network interface, to dynamically create and remove the
9 filters controlling access to the different service levels based, at least in part, on an admissions
10 profile.

1 2. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one filter [filter(s)],
2 when triggered, initiate an admission control decision preventing premature allocation of service
3 level resources which are not yet required or authorized.

1 3. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein each of the filters is [are] triggered
2 by information contained within the received data packet[s].

1 4. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein each of the filters is [are] triggered
2 by one or both of packet source information and packet destination information.

1 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the admissions profile is stored in a
2 communicatively coupled remote device.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the communicatively coupled remote device is
2 a bandwidth broker or other generic policy server.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the admissions profile is available locally
2 within the apparatus.

1 8. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller establishes an
2 ingress profile in response to detecting an associated trigger event, wherein the ingress profile
3 modifies the received data packet[s] adhering to the filter criteria to denote a particular service
4 level, in accordance with the admissions profile.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the controller removes ingress profiles when
2 data packets adhering to the filter criteria are no longer received, liberating apparatus resources.

1 10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the controller removes ingress profiles after a
2 predetermined period of time, liberating apparatus resources.

1 11. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller removes at least one
2 of the filters in accordance with a network administration policy.

1 12. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the controller removes at least
2 one of the filters based, at least in part, on time-of-day.

1 13. (Amended) A method for controlling provision of differentiated services in a data
2 network, the method comprising:

3 (a) installing a filter on a network edge device to provide a trigger notification upon
4 detecting data packets adhering to filter criteria[, in accordance with a network administration
5 policy]; [and

6 (b) dynamically creating an ingress profiler which polices admission to a particular
7 service level]

8 (b) determining whether a received data packet satisfies the filter criteria; and

9 (c) issuing a command by a bandwidth broker to a controller of the network edge
10 device to dynamically install or remove a filter in response to determining whether the received
11 data packet satisfies the filter criteria.

1 14. (Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising [(c)] (d) marking the
2 received data packets adhering to the filter criteria according to a subscribed service level.

1 15. (CANCEL)

1 16. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the marking of the received data packet
2 includes setting a logic value of a bit in a Type of Service (ToS) field of a header of the data
3 packet.

1 17. (New) The method of claim 14 further comprising:
2 (e) identifying and marking the received data packets with routing information in
3 accordance with the subscribed service level.

1 18. (New) The method of claim 17 further comprising:
2 (f) placing the data packets in a proper format for transmission.

1 19. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the classifier marks a Type of Service
2 (ToS) field of the received data packet to denote a level of service for transmission of the data
3 packet.

1 20. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller further dynamically
2 controls access to at least one classifier profile in accordance with the admission profile.

1 21. (New) An apparatus adapted to facilitate communications between a client device
2 and a remote device, comprising:
3 filter means for controlling access to different service levels;
4 means for classifying and marking one of the service levels associated with the received
5 data packet in response to satisfying filter criteria associated with the filter means; and
6 control means for dynamically creating and removing a portion of the filter means based
7 at least in part on an admission profile.

1 22. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the admissions profile is stored in a
2 communicatively coupled remote device.

1 23. (New) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the communicatively coupled remote
2 device is a bandwidth broker or other generic policy server.

1 24. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the filter means comprises a plurality
2 of filters.

1 25. (New) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein the control means removes at least one
2 of the filters in accordance with a network administration policy.

1 26. (New) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the control means removes at least one
2 of the filters based, at least in part, on time-of-day.

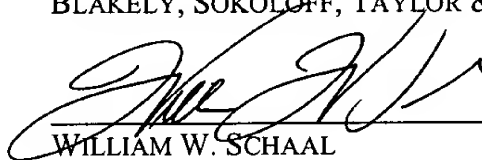
CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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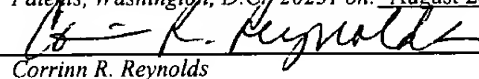


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: August 26, 2002.


Corrin R. Reynolds

8/26/02
Date